



A M B R O S E

Leadership & Literature

ED645 –Room A2133

Tuesday Night – September 13 – December 6, 2011

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What should leaders learn? To this question most would say that whatever is learned it should be in keeping with the tone and temper of our times. Barbara Kellerman of Harvard critiques this current reality by declaring, “Overwhelmingly, twenty-first century leadership education and development are about practice, not theory; about the present, not the past; about prose, not poetry; about evaluation, not meditation; about the real world, not the world of imagination. Put directly, twenty-first century leadership learning excludes the liberal arts almost entirely – literature, history, and philosophy, to take obvious examples – in favor of a focus on a practical purpose.” This course is focused on rising above the tone and temper of our times in order to hear and reflect on great leadership literature. This interactive course will center on a number of classic works exploring the topic that has occupied and preoccupied great minds since the beginning of recorded history – the topic of leaders and followers.

Course Objectives:

1. To hopefully grow in love with several classic texts on leadership
2. To draw from these texts principles which can inform and inspire the endeavor of leadership in whatever context we might serve.
3. To personally and critically interact with these texts, noting how these works vary from or flow with one’s own experience and expected experiences of leadership.
4. Having made head and heart discoveries, students will seek to share their learning through session participation, formal presentation of a final project, and text reflection papers.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Barbara Kellerman - *Leadership: Essential Selections on Power, Authority, and Influence*. New York: McGraw Hill.

Sophocles – *Antigone*. Dover Publications

Niccolo Machiavelli – *The Prince*. Oxford University Press.

T.S. Eliot – *Murder in the Cathedral*. Mariner Books

Elie Wiesel – *The Night*. FSG Adult.

Hermann Hesse – *Journey to the East*. Picador USA.

Sun Tzu – The Art of War. Barnes and Nobles Classic.

Henri Nouwen – In The Name of Jesus (Book will be provided by the professor)

RECOMMENDED (NOT REQUIRED):

Frederick Douglas – *Narrative on the life of an American Slave*

William Powers - *Hamlet's Blackberry*

Martin Luther King Jr. – *Why We Can't Wait*

Class Schedule – Fall 2011

- Sept 13 – Introduction to Course
The “texts” of leadership
“You are what you read” – Steven B. Sample
- 20 – Antigone
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
Kellerman Interaction – pp. 3-41
- 27 – The Prince – Chapters 1-15
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
- Oct 04 – The Prince – Chapters 16-26
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
Kellerman Interaction – pp. 42-73
- 11 – Shakespeare On Leadership (No reading for this week)
- 18 – Journey to the East
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
Kellerman Interaction – pp. 205-223
- 23 – Murder in the Cathedral – Up to Interlude (Christmas Morning Message)
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
- Nov 01 – Murder in the Cathedral – Interlude to the End
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
Kellerman Interaction - Select One Section from Part 2
and come prepared to contribute your thoughts from the selection.
- 08 - The Art of War
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
Kellerman Interaction – pp. 74-116

- 15 – The Night
Background to Text / Readings / Discussion
Kellerman Interaction – pp. 225-253
- 22 – In The Name of Jesus (Book will be provided for you)
Kellerman Interaction – pp.254-283
- 29 - Presentations – Based on the text of your choice – How this text has influenced my thinking on leadership
- Dec 06 – Sacred Text Leadership / Final Reflections Together

Assignment Summary – In Order of Due Date

#1 – Engagement / Participation / Reading – 30% **Due – Dec 6**
 This course will be largely centered around class discussion and interaction. The hope is that certain texts will be wrestled with in physical contexts that mirror the setting of the original story. Therefore engagement by all of us will make this course a richer experience. The assessment of this will be done by peers, self, and professor. The reading component will be an objective reporting of the extent of your reading.

#2 - Reflection Paper on *Journey to the East* – 20% **Due – Oct 31**
 Write a personal reflection paper on this book with particular attention to and application of the servant leadership principles and practices in this story. Reflect on this characteristic from a biblical perspective, weaving in the leadership example of Jesus.

Length – No more than 5 pages / appropriate formatting / references properly cited if references other than the book in focus are used.

#3 - Reflection Paper on *required text of your choice* – 20% **Due – Nov 21**
 Write a personal reflection paper on a required text of your choice. This may be a reflection of your interest in the particular leadership issue being treated in this text or simply a text that captures your curiosity in terms of its leadership principles. Reflect on key points that impacted you and how these might apply in your current or future leadership context.

Length – No more than 5 pages / appropriate formatting / references properly cited if references other than the book in focus are used.

#4 – Personal Presentation – 15% **Due – Nov 29**
Based upon a required text of your choice provide a concise 15 minute presentation on the key texts and principles that have impacted your current thinking on leadership. The presentation is to be no longer than 15 minutes with a brief Q & A to follow.

#5 – Synthesis Paper – 15% **Due – Dec 6**
From all that you have experienced in this course – your reading, reflection, class discussion, and writing – what would be the five leadership insights that you want to most remember? Articulate these five insights with a rationale as to their essential nature, the practical side of living these out, and a sacred text example of each insight or principle.

Length – No more than 5 pages / appropriate formatting / references properly cited.

*** Graduate Level Students will have an additional reading component. All materials and articles will be required reading in addition to the Required Texts**

Determination of Final Grade:		Due Date
#1 – Engagement and Participation	30%	Dec 6
#2 - Personal Reflection Paper on <i>Journey to the East</i>	20%	Oct 31
#3 - Personal Reflection Paper on <i>Other Text</i>	20%	Nov 21
#4 – Personal Presentation	15%	Nov 29
#5 – Synthesis Paper	15%	Dec 6

Leadership and Literature
Resources

- Bennis, W. (1993). *An invented life: Reflections on leadership and courage*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.
- Conger, J. (1992). *Learning to lead: The art of transforming managers into leaders*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Dostoevski, F. (1945). *The brothers Karamozov*. New York: Modern Library. (Originally published 1880).
- Eliot, T.S. (1935). *Murder in the cathedral*. London: Faber and Faber.
- Freire, P. (1970). *The pedagogy of the oppressed*. New York: Herder and Herder.
- Hesse, H. (1956). *Journey to the east*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Hewitt, H. (2003). *In, but not of: A guide to Christian ambition and the desire to influence the world*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.
- Hirsch, E. D. (1987). *Cultural literacy*. New York: Houghton Mifflin.
- Kellerman, B. (2010). *Leadership: Essential selections on power, authority, and influence*. New York: McGraw Hill.
- Machiavelli, N. (1979). *The prince*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Melville, H. (1981). *Moby Dick*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (Originally published 1851).
- Rilke, R. M. (1934). *Letters to a young poet*. New York: W. W. Norton.
- Sample, S. B. (2002). *The contrarian's guide to leadership*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Schon, D. (1983). *The reflective practitioner*. New York: Basic Books.
- Sophocles. *Antigone*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Sun-Tzu. *The art of war*. London: Penguin Books.
- Wiesel, E. (1960). *Night*. New York: Bantam Books.

Woolf, V. (1994). *A room on one's own*. London: Flamingo.

BREAKPOINT GREAT BOOKS SERIES

- 9/07 *The Great Divorce*, C.S. Lewis
10/07 *The Brothers Karamazov*, Fyodor Dostoevsky
11/07 *Paradise Lost*, John Milton
12/07 *Confessions*, Augustine
1/08 *Pensées*, Blaise Pascal
2/08 *The Pilgrim's Progress*, John Bunyan
3/08 *Christian Perfection*, François Fénelon
4/08 *The Imitation of Christ*, Thomas à Kempis
5/08 *The Love of God*, Bernard of Clairvaux
6/08 *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis
7/08 *The Pursuit of God*, A.W. Tozer
8/08 *The Screwtape Letters*, C.S. Lewis
9/08 *A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life*, William Law
10/08 *The Divine Comedy* (Part 1), Dante Alighieri
11/08 *The Divine Comedy* (Part 2), Dante Alighieri
12/08 *The Knowledge of the Holy*, A.W Tozer
1/09 *Crime and Punishment*, Fyodor Dostoyevsky
2/09 *My Utmost for His Highest*, Oswald Chambers
3/09 *East of Eden*, John Steinbeck
4/09 *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer
5/09 *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen
6/09 *Orthodoxy*, G. K. Chesterton
7/09 *Faust*, Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe
8/09 *The Dark Night of the Soul*, St. John of the Cross
9/09 *Moby-Dick*, Herman Melville
10/09 *The Religious Affections*, Jonathan Edwards
11/09 *The Lord of the Rings*, J. R. R. Tolkien
12/09 *The Problem of Pain*, C. S. Lewis
1/10 *Les Misérables*, Victor Hugo
2/10 *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, John Calvin
3/10 *Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy
4/10 *The City of God*, Augustine
5/10 *Middlemarch*, George Eliot
6/10 *Fear and Trembling*, Søren Kierkegaard
7/10 *War and Peace*, Leo Tolstoy
8/10 *Poems of George Herbert (The Temple)*

Great Books of the Western World - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Books_of_the_Western_World –

This project by the University of Chicago is an ongoing attempt to focus attention on the “super-texts” of history. It is now a 60 volume set. The Wikipedia entry gives a volume by volume overview of the authors and texts included in this monumental work.

